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EXECUTIVE ORDER

National Security Cross for Valor,
National Security Medal for Distinguished Achievement,
National Security Medal for Exceptional Achievement, and
National Security Medal for Meritorious Achievement

By virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States and as Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States it is ordered as follows:

1. There are hereby established medals to be known as the National Security Cross for Valor, the National Security Medal for Distinguished Achievement, the National Security Medal for Exceptional Achievement and the National Security Medal for Meritorious Achievement with accompanying ribbons and appurtenances. These medals and their appurtenances shall be of appropriate design, approved by the Director of Central Intelligence.
2. The National Security Cross for Valor may be awarded to any person, without regard to nationality, including a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, who, on or after 26 July 1947, has performed an act or service displaying conspicuous heroism in support of the national intelligence effort.
3. Any person, without regard to nationality, including a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, who, on or after 26 July 1947,
 - a. Has performed distinguished service to the national intelligence effort may be awarded the National Security Medal for Distinguished Achievement.
 - b. Has performed exceptional service to the national intelligence effort, but not a service of sufficient stature to warrant the presentation of the National Security Medal for Distinguished Achievement, may be awarded the National Security Medal for Exceptional Achievement.
 - c. Has performed meritorious service to the national intelligence effort, but not a service of sufficient stature to warrant the presentation of the National Security Medal for Distinguished Achievement or the National Security Medal for Exceptional Achievement, may be awarded the National Security Medal for Meritorious Achievement.

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4. (a) The decorations established by this order shall be awarded by the Director of Central Intelligence or by such officer as he may designate. Awards shall be made under regulations prescribed by the Director of Central Intelligence.

(b) Under special circumstances the decorations established by this order may also be awarded by, or at the direction of, the President to any person performing services to the national intelligence effort of the requisite nature.

5. No more than one National Security Cross for Valor, National Security Medal for Distinguished Achievement, National Security Medal for Exceptional Achievement or National Security Medal for Meritorious Achievement shall be awarded to any one person, but for subsequent services justifying an award, a suitable device may be awarded to be worn with the medal.

6. Members of the Armed Forces of the United States who are recipients of any decoration established by this order are authorized to wear an appropriate ribbon, symbolic of the award, in accordance with applicable uniform regulations.

7. The decorations established by this order may be awarded posthumously.

HARRY S. TRUMAN

The White House
August , 1952

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